

HV 695. Legal representation

Los Angeles County

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1944-1945

A N N U A L R E P O R T

P U B L I C D E F E N D E R

L O S A N G E L E S C O U N T Y

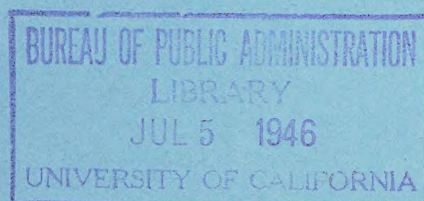
C A L I F O R N I A

Fiscal Year

July 1, 1944 to July 1, 1945

FREDERIC H. VERCOE

PUBLIC DEFENDER



1
2
3 INVESTIGATION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

4 The right of a person accused of a criminal offense,
5 in the Superior Court, to be represented by counsel is
6 guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, by the
7 Constitution of the State of California, and by the Penal
8 Code of this State. It is the duty of the
9 Department of the Public Defender of the State of Califor-
10 nia to provide for the defense of persons charged with
11 criminal offenses. If any defendant appears for arraignment
12 in court without counsel, he must be informed by the court
13 that ANNUAL REPORT before being
14 arraigned, he must be asked if he desires the aid
15 of counsel. If he desires and is unable to employ
16 counsel, the court must appoint counsel to defend
17 him. The following is a list of the persons who are
18 entitled to be appointed counsel.

19 ORIGINAL CASES
20 PUBLIC DEFENDER

21 Under the County Charter, in criminal cases, it is the
22 duty of the Public Defender, either upon request of the de-
23 fendant, or upon order of the court, to defend all persons
24 who are not financially able to employ counsel and who are
25 charged in the Superior Court, with the commission of a
26 felony or other offense.

1 APPEALS IN CRIMINAL CASES

2 JURISDICTION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

3
4 The right of a person accused of a criminal offense,
5 in the Superior Court, to be represented by counsel is
6 guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, by the
7 Constitution of the State of California, and by the Penal
8 Code of this state.

9 Section 987 of the Penal Code of the State of Califor-
10 nia provides as follows:

11 "If the defendant appears for arraignment
12 in which without counsel, he must be informed by the court
13 which, that it is his right to have counsel before being
14 forced arraigned, and must be asked if he desires the aid
15 of counsel. If he desires and is unable to employ
16 defend counsel, the court must assign counsel to defend
17 sel in him."

18 COUNTY CHARTER

19 CRIMINAL CASES

20 Under the County Charter, in criminal cases, it is the
21 duty of the Public Defender, either upon request of the de-
22 fendant, or upon order of the court, to defend all persons
23 who are not financially able to employ counsel and who are
24 charged in the Superior Court, with the commission of a
25 felony or other offense.

26 The Public Defender covers the County of Los Angeles

JURISDICTION OF PUBLIC DEFENDER

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Section 287 of the Penal Code of the State of California

provides as follows:

"If the defendant appears for arraignment without counsel, he must be informed by the court that if he is unable to employ counsel, and he desires the aid of counsel, he must be asked if he desires the aid of counsel. If he desires and is unable to employ counsel, the court must assign counsel to defend him."

COUNTY CHARTER

CRIMINAL CASES

Under the County Charter, in criminal cases, it is the duty of the Public Defender, either upon request of the defendant, or upon order of the court, to defend all persons who are not financially able to employ counsel and who are charged in the Superior Court, with the commission of a felony or other offense.

APPEALS IN CRIMINAL CASES

It is also his duty to prosecute all appeals to a higher court or courts, of any person who has been convicted upon any such charge, where, in his opinion, such appeal will, or might reasonably be expected to, result in a reversal or modification of the judgment of conviction.

CIVIL CASES

In civil legal matters it is his duty to represent the plaintiff, under the law, and to handle cases and prosecute actions for the collection of wages and of other claims of persons who are not financially able to employ counsel, in which the sum involved does not exceed \$100.00, and in which, in his judgment, the claims urged are valid and enforceable in the courts.

It is also his duty to represent defendants and to defend persons who are not financially able to employ counsel in civil litigation in which, in his judgment, they are being persecuted or unjustly harassed.

APPEALS IN CIVIL CASES

The Public Defender has authority to appeal civil cases to the proper appellate court when, in his judgment errors have occurred in the lower court and have resulted in a miscarriage of justice.

ADVANTAGE OF PUBLIC DEFENDER FROM ECONOMIC STANDPOINT

The Public Defender saved the County of Los Angeles

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ADVANTAGE OF PUBLIC DEFENDER
FROM ECONOMIC STANDPOINT

The Public Defender saved the County of Los Angeles

1 during the last fiscal year at least three times the cost of
2 operating the department, or approximately \$250,000.00, by
3 the manner in which the defenses of persons accused of crime
4 were conducted.

5 Unnecessary loss of time in handling criminal cases
6 was eliminated without sacrificing the substantial rights
7 and interests of the defendant. Pleas of guilty were
8 encouraged where the defendants were obviously guilty. Un-
9 necessary and costly trials were avoided whenever it was
10 possible to do so.

11 The actual time consumed in the trial of cases was
12 shortened by eliminating dilatory and procrastinating tac-
13 tics sometimes resorted to. Hundreds of cases were advanced
14 on the calendar from the original trial date and pleas of
15 guilty entered, thereby freeing the court calendar for the
16 trial of other cases.

17 Cases were prepared for trial and the trial conducted
18 or the case disposed of by plea of guilty or dismissal on
19 the original date they were set for trial unless previously
20 advanced and disposed of. Continuances of trial dates were
21 requested in only a very limited number of cases and then
22 only because it was necessary to do so for good and suffi-
23 cient reasons.

24 The Public Defender represents the defendant in be-
25 tween 55 and 60 per cent of all the criminal cases filed in
26 the Superior Court. During the fiscal year 1944-45 the Public

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2 operating the department, or approximately \$250,000.00, by
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23 cient reasons.

24 The Public Defender represents the defendant in be-
25 tween 55 and 60 per cent of all the criminal cases filed in
26 the Superior Court. During the fiscal year 1944-45 the Public

1 Defender handled 2587 criminal cases in the Superior Court.
2 In these cases 826 defendants entered pleas of guilty when
3 first arraigned in court and without the case being set for
4 trial.

5 The Public Defender, during this fiscal year, tried
6 266 cases in the Superior Court. 100 of said trials were
7 conducted with a jury while 166 were tried to the court
8 without juries. A tremendous amount of time, as well as the
9 expense of a jury in each of said cases was saved by this
10 practice.

11 The Public Defender also during this fiscal year
12 handled 114 preliminary examinations in the Superior Court,
13 in contributing to the delinquency of a minor cases. In 53
14 of said cases the preliminary examination was waived and the
15 defendant was held to answer without it being necessary for
16 the prosecution to prove its case by the introduction of
17 evidence and examination of witnesses. This saved a consid-
18 erable amount of time of the court. The rights of the de-
19 fendant were fully protected although this procedure was re-
20 sorted to. No good purpose would have been served and noth-
21 ing would have been gained by the defendant by insisting on
22 the trial of the preliminary in said cases.

23 In 1099 of said cases pleas of not guilty were entered
24 and the cases set for trial. 594 were later disposed of
25 without trial. 470 of said trials were disposed of by
26 changing the pleas of defendants from not guilty to guilty.

Defender handled 2587 criminal cases in the Superior Court. In these cases 826 defendants entered pleas of guilty when first arraigned in court and without the case being set for trial.

The Public Defender, during this fiscal year, tried 286 cases in the Superior Court. 150 of said trials were conducted with a jury while 136 were tried to the court without juries. A tremendous amount of time, as well as the expense of a jury in each of said cases was saved by this practice.

The Public Defender also during this fiscal year handled 114 preliminary examinations in the Superior Court, in contributing to the delinquency of a minor case. In 60 of said cases the preliminary examination was waived and the defendant was held to answer without it being necessary for the prosecution to prove its case by the introduction of evidence and examination of witnesses. This saved a considerable amount of time of the court. The rights of the defendant were fully protected although this procedure was resorted to. No good purpose would have been served and nothing would have been gained by the defendant by insisting on the trial of the preliminary in said cases.

In 1092 of said cases pleas of not guilty were entered and the cases set for trial. 394 were later disposed of without trial. 470 of said trials were disposed of by finding the pleas of defendants from not guilty to guilty.

1 120 of said cases were dismissed at the request of the
2 Public Defender because it would have been a waste of time
3 to try them. In each of said cases the rights of the de-
4 fendants, under the law, were fully protected and safeguard-
5 ed.

6 If the Public Defender had not disposed of said cases
7 without trial, at least 600 more of them would have had to
8 be tried in the courts. If 500 to 600 more cases had gone
9 to trial it would have required four more Superior Courts
10 than are now handling criminal cases, functioning full
11 time, to have tried the same.

12 In round figures, it costs the County of Los Angeles
13 \$50,000.00 a year to operate a Superior Court that handles
14 criminal cases. With four more criminal courts operating it
15 would have cost the county an additional \$200,000.00.

16
17 COMMENTS ABOUT PUBLIC DEFENDER'S DEPARTMENT

18 Judge Charles W. Fricke, who is presiding in Depart-
19 ment 43, one of the criminal departments of the Superior
20 Court, in writing about the Public Defender, had this to say:

21 " Your method of avoiding useless trials whenever
22 possible by pleas of guilty and in trying cases to the
23 court without juries, results in saving a tremendous
24 amount of the time of the courts. Your department in
25 all of its work very materially assists the courts in
26 disposing of criminal cases.

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all of its work very materially assists the courts in
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1 "As I have repeatedly and publicly declared, the
2 expense of your office is more than saved the county by
3 the manner in which your work is handled."

4
5 Mayor Fletcher Bowron, of the City of Los Angeles,
6 when he was a Judge of the Superior Court in this County,
7 wrote the following letter to the Board of Supervisors:

8 "I am advised that the Public Defender has re-
9 quested sufficient allowance in the budget for his
10 department for the next fiscal year to permit of the
11 employment of an additional deputy and an investigator.
12 I am taking the liberty to briefly express my views
13 strongly recommending the appropriation.

14 "For approximately five years I presided over a
15 criminal department and during that time I came in al-
16 most daily contact with the Public Defender's office.
17 I know of no department of county government which is
18 more efficiently operated and from which the public
19 receives a greater return than from this office. It
20 is well nigh impossible to estimate the actual saving
21 to the taxpayers of this county and the general public
22 benefits derived directly and indirectly from the de-
23 fense of persons charged with public offenses in the
24 way and manner that such accused felons are represented
25 by the Public Defender and his able deputies.

26 "For a number of years this office has represented

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"For a number of years this office has represented

1 more than half of those entering pleas in the Superior
2 Court. This office does not knowingly present false and
3 perjured testimony, but where convinced that a defendant
4 is innocent the deputies of the Public Defender's office
5 are able to and do present as good a defense as any de-
6 fendant could wish for, regardless of his financial abil-
7 ity to employ the best criminal lawyers at the local bar.
8 It is the practice of the office to carefully interview
9 each defendant whom the Public Defender has been assigned
10 to represent, and after a study of the transcript of evi-
11 dence taken at the preliminary hearing if convinced that
12 the defendant is guilty the deputy endeavors to induce him
13 to enter a plea of guilty. In this manner and in this way
14 alone the Superior Court is able to receive a large per-
15 centage of pleas of guilty where otherwise the case would
16 develop into a jury trial of several days duration. I
17 believe that it could be conservatively estimated that if
18 the office of the Public Defender should be eliminated and
19 we would be compelled to revert to representation of de-
20 fendants by individual counsel that fully half of the de-
21 partments of the Superior Court would be devoted to the
22 trial of criminal matters. (Half of the departments would
23 be 25. Parenthesis interpolated.)

24 "I would like to see the time come when our Constitu-
25 tion would be amended to provide for the representation of
26 all persons charged with a public offense by a Public

more than half of those entering prison in the Superior Court. This office does not know whether the defendant performed testimony, but where convinced that a defendant is innocent the deputies of the Public Defender's office are able to and do present as good a defense as any defendant could wish for, regardless of his financial ability to employ the best criminal lawyers at the local bar. It is the practice of the office to carefully interview each defendant whom the Public Defender has been assigned to represent, and after a study of the transcript of evidence the defendant is able to help the deputy endeavor to induce him to enter a plea of guilty. In this manner and in this way alone the Superior Court is able to receive a large percentage of pleas of guilty where otherwise the case would develop into a jury trial of several days duration. I believe that if the office of the Public Defender should be eliminated and we would be compelled to revert to representation of defendants by individual counsel that fully half of the defendants of the Superior Court would be devoted to the trial of criminal matters. (Half of the defendants would be 25. Parenthetical inserted.)

"I would like to see the time come when our constitution would be amended to provide for the representation of all persons charged with a public offense by a Public

1 Defender, where rich and poor alike would receive the same
2 kind of defense by a public officer in much the same man-
3 ner as we have in the past prosecuted all offenders by
4 public officer; but until that time comes I feel that the
5 ends of justice in this county require more financial sup-
6 port of the office of the Public Defender at the present
7 time. Hard working deputies are frequently required to
8 be in court all day and make investigations during the even-
9 ings in connection with cases they are preparing for trial.
10 The need of investigators by the Public Defender's office
11 has been felt for many years.

12 "I respectfully recommend that the requested increase
13 in the appropriation for the Public Defender's office be
14 allowed."

15 Judge Robert E. Scott of the Superior Court wrote the
16 Board of Supervisors as follows:

17 "My personal observation of the fine work done by the
18 Public Defender convinces me that the additional deputy
19 and investigator requested by Public Defender Frederic H.
20 Vercoe would be of substantial service to the county and
21 would fully justify the additional expenditure.

22 "It is the policy of that office, as I have observed
23 it, to seek diligently to assure the proper administration
24 of justice and not merely to defeat justice on the basis
25 of legal technicalities. The ability of deputies in the
26 public defender's office should be comparable to those in

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it, to seek diligently to assure the proper administration
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1 the staff of the district attorney and the pay should
2 naturally be similar. When you clearly and fully analyze
3 the service rendered by the public defender it will be
4 apparent that his service has been the largest contribut-
5 ing factor in the proper administration of our criminal
6 law. They have succeeded in their efforts over a long
7 period of years to fully safeguard the community and aid
8 in the rehabilitation of the wrongdoer."

9 Judge W. Turney Fox was serving as a Justice Pro Tem
10 in the District Court of Appeal when he wrote the following
11 letter:

12 "I am advised that you have been requested by the
13 Board of Supervisors to make a survey to determine whether
14 one or more Grade III deputies should be provided for the
15 Public Defender.

16 "During the twelve and one-half years that I have
17 been on the bench, I have had a great variety of contact
18 with the work of the Public Defender's office. This was
19 particularly true when I was serving in a criminal depart-
20 ment, also when I was Judge of the Juvenile Court. I have
21 likewise had the opportunity of observing the work of that
22 office from an entirely different viewpoint during the
23 six and one-half years that I have served on the Appellate
24 Department of the Superior Court, as well as during my
25 current assignment to the District Court of Appeal.

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ment, also when I was Judge of the Tenth Circuit. I have likewise had the opportunity of observing the work of that office from an entirely different viewpoint during the

Department of the Superior Court, as well as my current assignment to the District Court of Appeal.

1 "The net result of my observation of the Public De-
2 fender's office and the work that the deputies of that
3 office do is that their work is of a very high quality
4 and that it is a tremendously important factor in the
5 proper administration of justice. The deputies and their
6 work in that office compares favorably, in my opinion, with
7 the deputies in the District Attorney's office, whose work
8 I have likewise had the opportunity to see at close range
9 over this rather substantial period.

10 "It is important for the Public Defender to have
11 qualified and experienced lawyers to handle the work of
12 that office -- just as important as it is to have that
13 kind of lawyers as deputies in the District Attorney's
14 office. Cheap help in these offices is really expensive
15 to the public.

16 "The Public Defender's office in this county has al-
17 ways been, and is now, conducted on a very high plane, and
18 has exacted of the men in office very diligent and pains-
19 taking work and has required of them ability and good le-
20 gal training. It seems to me that they should therefore
21 be classified and compensated accordingly."

22 SUMMARY OF ADVANTAGES OF PUBLIC
23 DEFENDER IN CRIMINAL CASES

24
25 1. If the defendant has no case, he is honestly ad-
26 vised to plead guilty, thus avoiding unnecessary trials.

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fender's office and the work that the deputies of that

office do is that their work is of a very high quality

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be classified and compensated accordingly."

1. If the defendant has no case, he is honestly ad-

vised to plead guilty, thus avoiding unnecessary trials.

1 2. If the defendant has a good case, he is given an
2 adequate defense - not a perfunctory one - thereby truly
3 safeguarding his interests.

4 3. Juries are often waived.

5 4. Cases are promptly tried when reached on the cal-
6 endar - not continued time after time - thereby helping to
7 solve the problem of congested criminal court calendars.

8 5. Cases are tried more expertly because of the
9 skill of the defenders; and the time of the court, of the
10 jury, of the witnesses, of the court attaches and others is
11 not wasted by needlessly protracted trials.

12 6. By virtue of the foregoing, vast economies are
13 effected in the administration of criminal justice.

14 7. The trial judges tend to rely upon the opinions
15 and statements of the Public Defender in disposing of cases.

16 8. Chicanery and unethical practices are never re-
17 sorted to, and the atmosphere of the trial of criminal cases
18 is elevated and thereby respect for the law is enhanced.

19 9. There are less chances of miscarriage of justice
20 against a poor and perhaps illiterate defendant who might
21 otherwise be sent to prison because of not knowing what it
22 is all about.

23 PUBLIC DEFENDER IN CIVIL CASES

24 The Public Defender's civil jurisdiction is hardly
25 less important than his criminal jurisdiction.
26

2. If the defendant has a good case, he is given a

prejudicially in his favor.

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7. The trial judges tend to rely upon the opinions

and statements of the Public Defender in disposing of cases.

8. Calamity and unethical practices are never re-

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The Public Defender is

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1 Millions of dollars are spent in the State of Califor-
2 nia each year in giving indigent persons, the poor, needy,
3 and helpless, medical aid and hospitalization. This aid is
4 rendered by the State so that such persons may be restored
5 to health and again be placed, if possible, in a self-sup-
6 porting condition.

7 Likewise, it is the duty of the Public Defender to
8 render legal aid to the poor, needy and helpless in order
9 to straighten out their legal difficulties, secure for them
10 their rights under the law, or redress for their wrongs, so
11 that they may continue to be self-supporting and not become
12 charges of the Public Welfare Department.

13 APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE IN CIVIL CASES

14

15 During the fiscal year 1944-45, 16,276 persons applied
16 to the Public Defender for legal assistance in civil cases.
17 8,955 were advised as to their legal rights and assisted in
18 solving their problems under the law; 1504 had claims for
19 wages due, property detained, or other miscellaneous claims
20 which were handled and adjusted; 1199 were refused legal as-
21 sistance because they had the means to pay an attorney or
22 because their cases were outside the jurisdiction of the
23 office; and 4618, whose cases were outside the jurisdiction
24 of the Public Defender, were referred to the lawyers on the
25 Public Defender's list of lawyers. Said lawyers handle the
26 cases referred to them by the Public Defender and render

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Likewise, it is the duty of the Public Defender to render legal aid to the poor, needy and helpless in order to strengthen our civil liberties, secure for them their rights under the law, or redress for their wrongs, so that they may continue to be self-sufficient and not become charges of the Public Welfare Department.

SECTION FOR LITIGATION IN CIVIL CASES

During the fiscal year 1944-45, 10,875 persons applied to the Public Defender for legal assistance in civil cases. 8,955 were advised as to their legal rights and assisted in solving their problems under the law; 1,920 had claims for wages due, property lost, or other miscellaneous claims which were handled and adjusted; 1199 were refused legal assistance because they had the means to pay an attorney or because their cases were outside the jurisdiction of the office; and 4518, whose cases were outside the jurisdiction of the Public Defender, were referred to the lawyers on the Public Defender's list of lawyers. Said lawyers handle the cases referred to them by the Public Defender and render

1 legal assistance, In many of said cases no attorney's fees
2 are charged. In most of the cases where fees are charged
3 the fee is very moderate and of a minimum character.

4 TOTAL APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE

5
6 The total number of applications to the Public Defender
7 for assistance in both civil and criminal cases in the
8 fiscal year 1944-45 was 21,308.

9 The wages of more than 553 working men and women that
10 had been garnished, and were exempt under the law, which
11 were released from said garnishment by the assistance of the
12 Public Defender, amounted to \$30,286.35. By said aid the
13 Public Defender was able to keep the family of many a poor
14 working man from actually going hungry and from becoming
15 public charges requiring the assistance of the County Welfare
16 Department. The persons aided in the civil department of the
17 Public Defender's office were financially unable to employ a
18 lawyer in private practice.

19 The Public Defender recovered \$22,504.29 for the poor
20 and indigent persons who applied to him for legal assistance
21 in civil cases during the fiscal year 1944-45.

22 THE COST OF PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

23
24 The cost of maintaining and operating the Public De-
25 fender's office during the fiscal year 1944-45 was
26 \$89,050.21.

1 legal assistance. In many of said cases no attorney's fees
2 are charged. In most of the cases where fees are charged
3 the fee is very moderate and of a minimum character.

4 STATISTICS FOR ASSISTANCE

5 The total number of applications to the Public Defender
6 for assistance in both civil and criminal cases in the
7 fiscal year 1944-45 was 21,308.

8 The wages of more than 553 working men and women that
9 had been garnished, and were exempt under the law, which
10 were released from said garnishment by the assistance of the
11 Public Defender, amounted to \$80,322.35. By said aid the
12 Public Defender was able to keep the family of many a poor

13 public charges requiring the assistance of the County Welfare
14 Department. The persons aided in the civil department of the
15 Public Defender's office were financially unable to employ a
16 lawyer in private practice.

17 The Public Defender recovered \$22,504.29 for the poor
18 and indigent persons who applied to him for legal assistance
19 in civil cases during the fiscal year 1944-45.

DETAILED REPORT OF CRIMINAL CASES

Cases in which appearances were made in court.

Total number of court appearances in Superior Court - 6,531

Cases undisposed of July 1, 1944, and finally
disposed of during last fiscal year - - - - - 162

Felony cases, Superior Court- - - - - 2,173

Contributing cases in Superior Court

Misdemeanors- - - - - 136

Rehabilitation cases, Superior Court- - - - - 53

Juvenile cases, Superior Court- - - - - 64

Insanity cases, Superior Court- - - - - 12 2,599

CONSULTATIONS

Consultations held in office- - - - - 2,433

Consultations held in jail, approx. - - - - - 8,693 11,126

TRIALS IN CRIMINAL CASES

Total number of trials set during year and
disposed of- - - - - 1,099

Trials eliminated by changing pleas of not
guilty to guilty - - - - - 470

Cases disposed of by being dismissed- - - - - 120

Cases disposed of by being stricken from
calendar- - - - - 4

Other attorneys substituted - - - - - 197

Cases set for trial, pending July 1, 1945 - - - 76

Cases actually tried- - - - - 232 1,099

Cases in which appearances were made in court.

Total number of court appearances in Superior Court - 8,181

Cases undisposed of July 1, 1944, and finally disposed of during last fiscal year - 188

Contributing cases in Superior Court Miscellaneous - 188

Rehabilitation cases, Superior Court - 55

Juvenile cases, Superior Court - 64

Insanity cases, Superior Court - 18 8,598

Consultations held in office - 8,458

Consultations held in jail, approx. - 8,598 17,056

TRIALS IN CRIMINAL

Total number of trials set during year and disposed of - 490

Trials eliminated by changing plea of not guilty to guilty - 490

Cases disposed of by being dismissed - 188

Cases dismissed or set aside - 188

Cases set for trial, pending July 1, 1945 - 75

Cases actually tried - 865

RESULTS OF TRIALS

Verdicts of guilty- - - - -	135	
Verdicts of guilty less offense - - - - -	31	
Verdicts of not guilty- - - - -	61	
Jury disagreements- - - - -	<u>5</u>	232

CRIMINAL INSANITY TRIALS

Trial on pleas of not guilty by reason of insanity- - - - -		18
Verdicts sane - - - - -	5	
Verdicts insane - - - - -	<u>13</u>	
	18	
Present insanity trials in criminal cases - - - - -		4
Verdicts sane - - - - -	1	
Verdicts insane - - - - -	<u>3</u>	
	4	

CIVIL INSANITY TRIALS

Trial on Civil Insanity Complaints - - - - -		12
Verdicts sane - - - - -	5	
Verdicts insane - - - - -	<u>7</u>	
	12	
Total trials by Criminal Department - - - - -		266

SUPERIOR COURT PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

CONTRIBUTING CASES

Preliminary examinations held - - - - -	61	
Preliminary examinations waived - - - - -	53	
Defendants held to answer to Superior Court - -	96	
Defendants discharged and cases dismissed or stricken off calendar - - - - -	<u>18</u>	114

Verdicts of guilty less of those -- -- -- -- -- 31
 Verdicts of not guilty -- -- -- -- -- 61
 Jury disagreements -- -- -- -- -- 5

Trials on plea of not guilty by reason of
 insanity -- -- -- -- --
 Verdicts same -- -- -- -- -- 5
 Verdicts insane -- -- -- -- -- 13
 Present insanity trials in criminal cases -- -- -- -- -- 13
 Verdicts same -- -- -- -- -- 1
 Verdicts same -- -- -- -- -- 14

Trials on civil insanity complaints -- -- -- -- -- 16
 Verdicts same -- -- -- -- -- 5
 Verdicts same -- -- -- -- --

Total trials by Criminal Department -- -- -- -- -- 106

DEFENDANTS DISCHARGED AND CASES DISMISSED OR
 ATTORNEY OF DEFENSE -- -- -- -- -- 18
 Preliminary examinations held -- -- -- -- -- 61
 Preliminary examinations waived -- -- -- -- -- 55
 Defendants held to answer to Superior Court -- -- -- -- -- 96

MISCELLANEOUS DISPOSITIONS

PLEAS OF GUILTY

Total pleas of guilty to offenses charged - - -	1,176	
Total pleas of guilty of less offense than charged- - - - -	<u>127</u>	1,303

VIOLATION OF PROBATION CASES

Number of cases handled - - - - -		102
Probation modified and continued without further county jail sentence- - - - -	2	
Probation continued on same terms - - - - -	6	
Fine imposed on defendant - - - - -	4	
Probation revoked and defendant sentenced to		
County Jail- - - - -	47	
San Quentin- - - - -	27	
Ione (Reformatory) - - - - -	0	
Stricken off calendar- - - - -	4	
Forestry Camp- - - - -	0	
Committed to Youth Authority - - - - -	3	
Other Attorneys substituted - - - - -	4	
Case dismissed- - - - -	<u>5</u>	102

PROBATION ORDERS

Defendants granted probation without jail sentence- - - - -	105	
Defendants granted probation with jail sentence- - - - -	147	
Defendants denied probation - - - - -	<u>312</u>	564

Total pleas of guilty to offenses charged - - - 1,174

Total pleas of guilty to less offense
than charged - - -

108

Number of cases handled - - -

Probation modified and continued without

Fine imposed on defendant - - -

Probation revoked and defendant sentenced to

County Jail - - -

San Quentin - - -

State (Reformatory) - - -

Stricken off calendar - - -

Forestry Camp - - -

Committed to Youth Authority - - -

Other attorneys substituted - - -

108

3

PROBATION ORDERS

Probation granted with jail

147

Probation denied

208

SENTENCES AND FINES

Defendants sentenced to death - - - - - 3
Defendants sentenced to San Quentin - - - - - 292
Defendants sentenced to Tehachapi (Women) - - - 7
Defendants committed to Preston School (Ione) - 4
Defendants committed to Ventura (Girls) - - - - 0
Defendants sentenced to County Jail - - - - - 618
Defendants fined- - - - - 38
Defendants committed to Youth Authority - - - - 103

DEFENDANTS COMMITTED TO STATE HOSPITALS

Mendocino State Hospital- - - - - 8
Patton State Hospital - - - - - 1
Norwalk State Hospital- - - - - 1
Camarillo State Hospital- - - - - 3

APPEALS TO DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

AND SUPREME COURT IN CRIMINAL CASES

Appeals to Supreme Court in death penalty cases - - 3
Petition to Supreme Court for Writ of Habeas
Corpus - - - - - 1
Appeals to District Court of Appeal in felony
cases- - - - - 5
Petition to District Court of Appeal for Writ
of Habeas Corpus - - - - - 1 10
Death Penalty appeal pending and undisposed of- - - 1
Appeals to District Court of Appeal, pending
and undisposed of- - - - - 2 3

DETAILED REPORT OF CIVIL CASES

Total number of applications in the office for assistance in civil cases - - - - -	16,276
Applications in which advice was given on various subjects- - - - -	8,955
Applications rejected because applicants were able to pay a fee or because the office was without jurisdiction:	
Refused - - - - -	1,199
Referred to attorney- - - - -	<u>4,618</u>
	5,817
Cases accepted and handled - - - - -	1,504

CIVIL CASES ACCEPTED AND HANDLED

Illegal attachments and garnishments and other persecution cases - - - - -	553	
Guardianship cases - - - - -	262	
Waivers of Premarital Tests in Superior Court - - - - -	450	
Miscellaneous accepted cases - - - - -	<u>239</u>	1,504
Total Appearances in Court on Civil Cases - - - - -		940
Moneys collected and chattels recovered without suit (approx.)- - - - -		\$ 2,217.04
Amount of wages released from illegal garnishment - - - - -		<u>20,286.35</u>
		\$22,504.29

Respectfully submitted,

FREDERIC H. VERCOE,

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Total number of applications in the office
 for assistance in civil cases - - - - - 18,378
 Applications in which advice was given on
 various subjects - - - - - 8,833
 Applications rejected because applicants
 were able to pay a fee or because the
 office was without jurisdiction:
 Rejected - - - - - 1,120
 Referred to attorney - - - - - 2,315
 Cases accepted and handled - - - - - 1,304
 Miscellaneous accepted cases - - - - - 1,304
 Total applications in Court on civil cases - - - - - 940
 Amount of wages released from liability - - - - - 20,385.32
 28,406.28

FRANKLIN H. VERRILL

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